



September 11, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Westport Waterfront TIGER Application Grant

Dear Mr. LaHood:

The Baltimore Development Corporation, Baltimore City's economic development arm, is pleased to provide this letter in support of the Westport Waterfront grant application pursuant to the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant Program.

The Westport Waterfront is a 42 acre, \$1.4 billion mixed-use project. Set on the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River, Westport Waterfront is at the heart of the next wave of Baltimore's reinvention. With two million square feet of office space, 2,000 residential units, 300,000 square feet of retail and 500 hotel rooms, Westport's master plan creates a dynamic community that will be on the forefront of sustainable, transit-oriented design. The Westport Waterfront represents a unique opportunity to directly impact an Economically Distressed Area (EDA) with the creation of more than 15,000 jobs.

The Westport Waterfront supports all aspects of the Baltimore City Comprehensive Master Plan. This TOD mixed use project will increase opportunities to live and work in Baltimore City and create an upgraded Westport and a new vibrant community. The awarding of the TIGER funds to the project will directly enhance the existing transportation system creating a more connected and sustainable environment.

Baltimore Development Corporation supports the Westport Waterfront TIGER grant application.

Sincerely,


M.J. Brodie,
President